



1647

Attorney Docket No.: 5253.200-US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Blinkovsky et al.

Confirmation No: 9075

Serial No.: 09/080,127

Group Art Unit: 1647

Filed: May 15, 1999

Examiner: S.Turner

For: Polypeptides Having Aminopeptidase Activity And Nucleic Acids Encoding Same

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

MAY 30 2003

Sir:

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

1. Amendment Fee Transmittal
2. Amendment

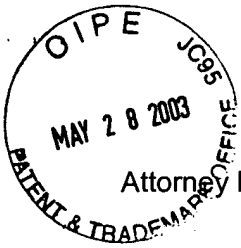
is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on May 22, 2003.

Seleste A. Buriani
(name of person mailing paper)

Seleste A. Buriani
(signature of person mailing paper)



Attorney Docket No.: 5253.200-US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Blinkovsky et al.

Confirmation No: 9075

Serial No.: 09/080,127

Group Art Unit: 1647

Filed: May 15, 1999

Examiner: S.Turner

For: Polypeptides Having Aminopeptidase Activity And Nucleic Acids Encoding Same

AMENDMENT FEE TRANSMITTAL

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAY 30 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment for the above-identified application in response to the Office Action mailed **February 24, 2003**.

No additional claims fee is required.

Applicant is filing this within the 3 month time period, thus not needing an extension and there are no additional claims. Please charge any fees that the applicant might have missed, to Novozymes North America, Inc., Deposit Account No. 50-1701.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 22, 2003

Robert L. Starnes, Reg. No. 41,324
Novozymes Biotech, Inc.
1445 Drew Avenue
Davis, CA 95616
(530) 757-8100



Attorney Docket No. 5253.200-US

PATENT

Handwritten notes: #3011, 23, 6/3/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Blinkovsky *et al.*

Confirmation No.: 9075

Serial No.: 09/080,127

Group Art Unit: 1647

Filed: May 15, 1998

Examiner: S. Turner

For: Polypeptides Having Aminopeptidase Activity And Nucleic Acids Encoding Same

AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

MAY 30 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 24, 2003, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 237-240 without prejudice or disclaimer. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

Claim 207 (previously added): An isolated secreted polypeptide having aminopeptidase activity with physicochemical properties of (i) a pH optimum in the range of from about pH 7.27 to about pH 10.95 determined at ambient temperature in the presence of Ala-para-nitroanilide; (ii) a temperature stability of 90% or more, relative to initial activity, at pH 7.5 determined after incubation for 20 minutes at 60°C in the absence of substrate; (iii) a temperature stability of 64% or more, relative to initial activity, at pH 7.5 determined after incubation for 20 minutes at 70°C in the absence of substrate; and (iv) an ability to hydrolyze a substrate containing Ala, Arg, Asn, Asp, Cys, Gln, Glu, Gly, His, Ile, Leu, Lys, Phe, Pro, Ser, Thr, Trp, Tyr, or Val at its N-terminus, selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which has at least 90% identity with the amino acid sequence of amino acids 16 to 496 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a polypeptide which is encoded by a nucleic acid sequence which hybridizes under medium stringency conditions with (i) the nucleic acid sequence of nucleotides 46 to 1488 of SEQ ID NO:1, or (ii) its full complementary strand, wherein medium stringency conditions are defined as prehybridization and hybridization at 42°C in 5X SSPE, 0.3% SDS, 200 µg/ml sheared and denatured salmon sperm DNA, and 35% formamide; and